

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 9th March 1907.

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

We do not believe, says the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 21st February, that it was out of pure friendship that the Government invited the Amir to India.

The Amir.

*SANJIVANI*,  
Feb. 21st, 1907.

2. Referring to the interview between Mr. Bryce and Mr. Roosevelt, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March says that the more Germany is acquiring military strength, the more are English statesmen making alliances with other Powers.

England and the military strength of Germany.

*DAILY HITAVADI*,  
March 1st, 1907.

3. It is rumoured, says the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March, that Government intends to send a scientific expedition into Tibet and China for political and commercial purposes. The expedition may be useful to white merchants, but we are at a loss to make out what political purpose it can serve. It is only on the ground that commerce and politics go hand in hand in the case of the English, that the expedition may be expected to be politically successful. As for the Indians, the only result of the projected expedition will be that they will have to bear its expenses.

A scientific expedition to Tibet and China.

*HITAVADI*,  
March 1st, 1907.

4. The recently reported refusal of the Natal Supreme Court to interfere with an order passed by the License Officer of Ladysmith against allowing Indians to trade in that town from the year 1907 calls forth from the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March the following :—

Indians in Natal.

*DAILY HITAVADI*,  
March 2nd, 1907.

Will *zulm* like this continue for ever? It is needless to say that the effects of *zulm* like this will be evil indeed.

5. A contributor to the *Namai Moqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 4th March, pronouncing that whoever seeks association with an alien, practically, makes himself the hitting point of the arrow of misfortune, expresses his regret at the conduct of the Armenian subjects of Persia in their having preferred, to the utter disregard of the advice of their sages, to put their children into the French and the American schools for education, with the advice that they had better set up their own schools at a comparatively moderate cost.

Persian politics.

*NAMA-I-MOQADDAS  
HABUL MATIN*,  
March 4th, 1907.

6. The same paper says :—

Persian politics.

How far the dissolution of the administrative connexion with Persia of the Belgic Consul is near the truth, cannot be determined. If it be a fact, the matter would eventually tend to the benefit of the country, inasmuch as a lump sum of money that used to go to fill an alien coffer will now be appropriated by it. Evidently, this reflects good luck on the part of Iran.

*NAMA-I-MOQADDAS  
HABUL MATIN*.

7. Referring to the enormities perpetrated by one Suja Nizam and to the fact of his having become a man of fortune by unfair means, a contributor of the same paper regrets that none dares reporting the ruffian's conduct to the authorities, fearing lest this should tend to augment his villany instead of bringing relief. The correspondent adds, that the worst side of the thing is that the latter has secured the patronage of the Russian Consul.

Persian politics.

*NAMAI MOQADDAS  
HABUL MATIN*.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

8. The *Nadia* [Krishnagar] of the 23rd February says that the police is growing very oppressive in Comilla and persecuting and insulting gentlemen. Is there no means of preventing this?

The Comilla police.

*NADIA*,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

9. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March refers to the alleged rioting by Musalmans at Comilla, as well as to the alleged indifference of the district authorities to the matter, and remarks :—

Alleged incidents at Comilla.

*DAILY HITAVADI*,  
March 6th, 1907.

If this news be true, then one must conclude that British rule has disappeared from Eastern Bengal.



HOWRAH HITAISHI,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

10. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 23rd February says that, besides the case of Nabin Das in which the culprit admitted his guilt, several other cases of murder have occurred within the jurisdiction of the Bagnan thana, as, for instance, the murder of a girl in the Ichchhapur village, of a respectable person in the Orhaphuli village, and of a wayfarer nearer the Bagnan station, but the incompetence of the Bagnan police has made them unable to trace even one of these.

JASOHAR,  
Feb. 24th, 1907.

11. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 28th February says that every year a large number of prostitutes come to the *mela* which is held at Bagerhat in the Khulna district for more than one month from the day of the *Saraswati Puja*.

This has a very deteriorating influence on the morals of the place. Mr. S. Q. Mukharji, lately Magistrate of the district, issued an order to the police to prevent this influx of prostitutes. But it now appears that with his transfer from the district the prohibition has become a dead letter.

HITAVADI,  
March 1st, 1907.

12. It is rumoured, says the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March, that recently an Inspector and a Sub-Inspector of Police suddenly entered and searched the house of a respectable Musalman named Makbul Ahmad, of Comilla, on the suspicion that he had smuggled fire-arms from Monghyr. But no fire-arms were found in the house. It is suspected that this police inspection had something to do with the fact that a *swadeshi* meeting had been held in the house in the month of May last.

BANGAVASI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

13. Referring to the theft of Rs. 6,000 in cash and ornaments, belonging to Babu Beharilal Pandit, an up-country zamindar, on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March says that this case, along with the murder of Sachindra Kumar Basu and the theft of the property of the Magistrate of Puri, proves the utter inefficiency of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police. Kharagpur and Khurda are the principal nests of *budmashes* on the line.

BANGAVASI.

14. Referring to the death of Sachindra Kumar Basu, the same paper writes as follows:—

The police enquiry into Sachindra Kumar Basu's death.

We are told that the investigation of the case has been taken up again by the police. We learn, however, by secret enquiry that nothing of the kind has been done. The police investigation is now practically limited to ink, pen and paper. Mr. Cornish was a good man and he took almost a personal interest in the case. We have learnt from a trustworthy source that after the transfer of this gentleman and that of the native officer who was first entrusted with the investigation, no other police officer has been deputed to investigate the case. Mr. Hyde, who has succeeded Mr. Cornish as the head of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police, is also a very good man. It is hoped that he will have the case thoroughly investigated.

BASUMATI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

15. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March speaks of a recrudescence of theft in Calcutta owing to the dearness of food-grains.

Theft in Calcutta.

HITVARTA,  
March 3rd, 1907.

16. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March expresses its dissatisfaction at the action of Mr. Hare in making Mr. Kemp, District Superintendent of Police, Barisal, a Deputy Inspector-General of Police, noting that the latter having been thus uplifted, it will now be the turn of Mr. Emerson to come in for a like promotion at an early date.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

HITAVADI,  
Feb. 22nd, 1907.

17. Referring to the case in which one Bryan has been sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment for violating the modesty of a female on the Cawnpore-Achnera Railway, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd February says:—

The Cawnpore-Achnera Railway outrage case.

People believe that it is only for appearances' sake that Bryan has been punished, and in our opinion the punishment has been too light. People also



believe that even if sentenced to imprisonment, European offenders are somehow or other let off before they have served their full terms, just as the murderers of Dr. Suresh Chandra of Barrackpore were let off. In prisons, also, Europeans are much better treated than natives.

18. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February says that recently a poor cultivator was first fined Rs. 5 and afterwards sent to jail for failing to pay the fine by an Allahabad Tahsildar, because the poor man did not consent to work *begar*. An appeal has been made against the conviction and sentence. The English boast of their civilised government. But what is the idea which the people of the country must form of this government from cases like the above?

An alleged case of *begar* in Allahabad.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

19. A correspondent of the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 28th February says that the Honorary Magistrates of the Narail Bench in the Jessore district are in the habit of holding their courts after 4 P.M. This causes great inconvenience to litigants. The Subdivisional Officer is requested to appoint better men as Honorary Magistrates.

The Honorary Magistrates of Narail in the Jessore district.

JASOHAR,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

20. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February writes that Mr. Dawson, the Subdivisional Officer of Karimganj, whenever mukhtars practising before him quote as precedents judgments of the High Court in similar cases, is accustomed to remark angrily that he was in court to dispense justice and that he did not consider himself bound by precedents and the like. The condition of Eastern Bengal was bad enough before and it has become worse since its amalgamation with Assam. If Mr. Dawson acts as he says, then no justice is to be expected from him. Will Mr. Hare remain inactive even in regard to this matter?

The Subdivisional Officer of Karimganj.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

21. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March cordially concurs in the suggestions of its contemporary the *Calcutta Weekly Notes* that the services of jurors should be remunerated by fees.

Remuneration for jurors.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

#### (d)—Education.

22. Referring to the strike of the students of the Aligarh College, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 28th February says:—  
If you give education to anybody you must give him freedom as well; else he will secure it by force. Do you think that the Musalman students who receive education in the Aligarh College will have no feeling of self-respect and will never claim their rights and privileges, but calmly submit to oppressions? This is impossible. When fire has been kindled, darkness must vanish. Nowadays no college should have a European Principal. The Aligarh incident is a good lesson for everybody.

Strike in the Aligarh College.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

23. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February, in noticing the recent appointment of a European Inspectress of Schools at Bankipur in connexion with the extension of female education, remarks upon the impropriety of having a European for this post, when there are Indian ladies competent for it.

A new Inspectress of Schools at Bankipur.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

24. In course of various facetious reflections on the matter, the *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 28th February notes the fact of the appointment of an Inspectress of Schools for the administration of female education in Bihar.

The appointment of an Inspectress of Schools for Bihar

AL PUNCH,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

25. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 1st March points out that under existing rules, candidates for the post of Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools in the Presidency Division are required to have passed the *Traibarschik* (third year) examination of normal schools and to know English; and also that Musalmans who have passed this examination are very few in number. The paper then proceeds to suggest that there appears to be no necessity for regarding it as an indispensable qualification for candidates for these posts that they should have passed this examination and that men who have passed the University F. A. Examination should be given equal chances with the men who have passed this examination.

Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools Presidency Division.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
March 1st, 1907.



**BASUMATI,**  
March 2nd, 1907.

26. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March says that private colleges in Bengal have sold their independence to Government by accepting its money. Government has checked high education and freedom of thought in the country. And the University has made over the private colleges to its control. Government does not like that Indian students should discuss politics or have high ideas of patriotism and independence. This became known some time ago from a letter written by a high official of the Government of India.

**HINDI BANGAVASI,**  
March 4th, 1907.

27. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th March regrets the proceeding of Government in recruiting a man from Europe to teach weaving in the Serampore Weaving Institution, notwithstanding there being men among the Indians capable enough to be equal to the task, if appointed.

The proposal to recruit a weaving master from Europe for the Serampore Weaving Institution criticized.

The paper reflects that in the latter case a native artizan would have been able to live comfortably, and the finances of the country would have gone to support one of its own sons, but nothing can be said further when the Government dispensation takes such a turn.

**DAILY HITAVADI,**  
March 6th, 1907.

28. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March writes that the passage in Bengali set in the recent Entrance Examination for translation into English is strange in its style. It does not follow the Bengali method of punctuation, abounds in improper and inelegant compounds and phraseology, and is occasionally misspelt.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

**JASOHAR,**  
Feb. 21st, 1906.

29. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 21st February says that the stench emitted by the trenching ground by the side of the Nilganja Road in Jessore town has of late become unbearable to passers-by. Dogs and jackals also often drag the refuse to the road. The attention of the Jessore Municipality is drawn to the matter.

**JASOHAR.**

30. A correspondent of the same paper says that unless the work of excavating canals is soon begun in Magura, the subdivision will be depopulated by famine and malaria in two years.

**JASOHAR.**

31. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the extremely bad condition, in the rains, of a small road in the Mangalkot village, under the Kesabpur thana, in the Jessore district, and prays that the District Board will construct a public road from Bazarkhola to Jharhu Fakir's *pul* (culvert) in the village.

**JASOHAR,**  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

32. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 28th February says that cholera is raging in the villages near Kesabpur, in the Jessore district, and that a few deaths have occurred.

**JASOHAR.**

33. A correspondent of the same paper says that the earth-work for the repair of the road between Gadhespur and Barabazar in the Jessore district has begun, but regrets that the Local Board has sanctioned only Rs. 50 for the work. The local people have resolved to pay Rs. 100 by subscription, and the Board is requested to pay the balance of the road-repair fund lying in its hands.

**NADIA,**  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

34. The *Nadia* [Krishnagar] of the 23rd February draws the attention of the officers of the Krishnagar Municipality to the need for properly repairing and watering the *pucca* streets of the town and also for repairing a damaged drainage channel in Hazariberia Sibtol Lane.

**MANBHUM,**  
Feb. 26th, 1907.

35. The *Manbhumi* [Purulia] of the 26th February reports that deaths from cholera are increasing in number at Purulia, and in this connexion draws the attention of the local Municipality to the necessity of better cleansing some of the thoroughfares in the town, notably Bholanath Babu's Lane, Dispensary Road, etc.

**SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,**  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

36. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February writes that the popular idea is that with the introduction of plague inoculation, the ravages of the disease have increased.



37. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st March quotes the following from a Government Resolution on the Administration Report for 1905-06 :—

BANKURA DARPAN,  
March 1st, 1907.

Taxes on carts in Bankura Municipality. "The Commissioner will be asked to satisfy himself that the tax is being properly administered in this Municipality without undue hardship to persons whose carts only occasionally visit the Municipality. . . . Inspecting officers should continue to see that the law on the subject of the registration of carts is not oppressively exercised by Municipalities."

and in commenting on it inquires if any municipal employé concerned can testify on oath to the distance in miles from the Municipality from which the carters from whom taxes were collected this year came, and can swear whether it was possible for these carts to have come twice in a week. Cultivators in the villages require to buy oil-cake in the market for the feed of their cattle, but they have to pay a tax if they come to the market with their carts. The effect is that a source of agricultural wealth in the country is decaying.

38. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March is against the proposal for improved paving of the commercial centre of the city, lest the extra expense necessitated thereby will result in leaving the streets of the native sections of the city worse paved than they are now.

HITAVADI,  
March 1st, 1907.

39. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 1st March writes against the annoyance caused by the swarms of professional able-bodied beggars in Calcutta and in favour of their suppression by legislation.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
March 1st, 1907.

40. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says:—

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
March 4th, 1907.

The foot-paths bordering the main roads in Calcutta. The foot-paths on either sides of the roads in Calcutta are, evidently, meant for use as passages, exclusively by the wayfarers, to enable them to avoid the overwhelming hindrances offered by the unceasing traffic on the main roads. But, notwithstanding, the foot-path of the Barabazar portion of the Harrison Road appears to have been intended for quite a different purpose. Its main use now is as a site for petty shops and as a depository for goods and building materials and the rubbish of the adjoining houses. Those on either sides of the Harrison Road extending up to the junction of the Chitpur Road keep constantly blocked up. You cannot walk along them more than twenty or thirty paces, before the standing encroachments would go to interrupt your course. Here, you will find the merchants' trunks huddled together and there a good many shops set up. Again, at another part of the road a heap of house-building materials provided for any adjoining building under construction will meet your gaze. The foot-paths near the Strand seem, as it were, to be the landed property of the fruit sellers keeping shops thereon and flinging thereabout their rotten fruits giving off offensive smell so much injurious to the local sanitation. The police witness the state of things but take no notice of it. The local Municipality seems to have excluded Barabazar from within its limit, or else how such a state of things would have, allowably, come to pass, much less have been tolerated? In this connexion the more that can be said in the way of finding fault with the local police and municipal administrations, the less it would actually be.

41. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March writes that a correspondent has recently supplied it with details to prove the strange manner in which certain municipal officials are behaving in connexion with the sanctioning of plans of proposed buildings in district No. IV. It appears that plans filed under sections 370 and 386 of the Municipal Act are in the majority of cases not finally disposed of in time, but are returned after the time allowed by the law expires, to the great inconvenience of the persons who intended building the houses. Further, in premises No. 91, Kansaripara Road (Ward No. XXII), a stairs room and verandah have been constructed without sanction from the Corporation. How, again, could sanction be got to the construction of second storeys upon certain one-storyed *kutchas* buildings in Rupnarayan Nanda's Lane and Chaulpatti Lane? Finally, permission has been accorded to leave an open space of two feet only, where 12 feet should properly have been left open.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 6th, 1907.



**BASUMATI,**  
March 2nd, 1907.

42. A correspondent of the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March complains of the extremely bad condition of the Local Board road between Kola and Gopalnagar through Borodangi in the Midnapore district, and says that it causes the greatest inconvenience to the local people. The Board has been more than once petitioned in the matter, but to no effect.

**BANGAVASI,**  
March 2nd, 1907.

43. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March speaks of the prevalence of cholera in Khulnaswari, Ektorpur, Jagannathpur, Ugrasinbash, Paltaberha, Charhaikhia, Kamargosha, Nilpur, Rughunandanpur, Sijna, Hedya, Adampur and other villages in the Midnapore district.

**BANGAVASI.**

44. The same paper complains of the want of a road between the Pangsa railway station and the Swarnagaha village in the Faridpur district. Some time ago a sum of money was sanctioned and a portion of a road was constructed, but since then nothing further has been done to complete the work. The attention of the District Board is drawn to the matter.

**BANGAVASI.**

45. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's recent visit to Puri, the same paper asks whether His Honour's attention was drawn to the proposed scheme of constructing a drainage system in the town. It is hoped that His Honour will not allow anything to be done that will wound the feelings of crores of Hindus.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

**BIRBHUM VARTA,**  
Feb. 22nd, 1907.

46. The *Birbhum Varta* [Birbhum] of the 22nd February says that consignments of coal received at the Suri railway station generally fall short of their original weights. But as these consignments are made under the Railway Risk Note, the Railway Company refuses to be in any way responsible for the loss.

**NADIA,**  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

47. The *Nadia* [Krishnagar] of the 23rd February writes that great inconvenience is felt by persons who have to take delivery of goods at Krishnagar city railway station, because of the fact that the goods shed is about half a mile away from the station and is often without any employé who can give over delivery.

**BANGAVASI,**  
March 2nd, 1907.

48. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March complains of the insufficiency of the supply of third-class carriages on the Southern Section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, and the consequent hardship and inconvenience to which the third-class passengers of the line are subjected.

**PURULIA DARPAN,**  
March 4th, 1907.

49. The *Purulia Darpan* [Purulia] of the 4th March writes that the recent changes in the timings of passenger trains on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway are causing indescribable inconvenience to travellers. No arrangement has been made by which one may travel by the Bengal-Nagpur line to Burdwan, or to stations on the loop line of the East Indian Railway.

(h)—*General.*

**SWADES,**  
Feb. 25th, 1907.

50. With reference to the recent Resolution of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam on the question of the employment of Musalmans in the public service, the *Swades* [Calcutta] of the 25th February writes that the principle of distributing the patronage of the State in proportion to population is a very shallow one, and it would be well if Government, disregarding all considerations of numerical proportion, or of competency and worth, were to appoint Musalmans as it now appoints Europeans and Eurasians.

**MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,**  
March 1st, 1907.

51. In noticing the recent Resolution of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam on the question of the employment of Musalmans in the public service, the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 1st March writes that the Resolution of the Government of



India on this subject, dated the 15th July 1885, bore fruit only in the appointment of Maulvi Ahmad, M.A., and Maulvi Muhammad Ibrahim, B.A., as Assistant Inspectors for Schools for Muhammadan Education. One does not know what further effects this Resolution of the Government of India has had. And if the orders of the Governor-General in Council are treated as waste-paper in this fashion, who can say that Mr. Hare's orders will not have a like fate? High European officials (from the Chief Secretary to the District Magistrate) do not see things with their own eyes, but are quick to believe anything that may be said against anybody. A class of flatterers always falsely report to these European officials that Musalman applicants for offices are not to be had. The other day, certain persons known to the editor of this paper applied for a vacancy for which Musalman candidates were, according to the terms of the advertisement, to have the preference. Wishing to know the result of their applications, the applicants interviewed the *Burra Babu* (Head Clerk), who sent them away with the reply that there had been no vacancies in the office at all and that the *Burra Shahib* over whose name the advertisement appeared was a madcap in whom no credence was to be placed. The *Burra Shahib* himself was next interviewed and he said that the *Burra Babu* had brought in somebody to fill the vacancy, and that he was sorry that he could not help it and that the applicants must wait for the next vacancy. So much for the *Burra Shahib's* orders and the *Burra Babu's* influence. This incident is typical of what is happening every day in every office.

If India was conquered by the sword and is maintained by the sword, and if the English *raj* is really so powerful as it is said to be, why then was Sir B. Fuller made to retire for fear of the Hindus? And, further, was not Mr. Lyon's recent circular on this subject quite enough? If, as one often hears it stated, it be a fact that the high officials of Government stand quite in awe of the Hindus, then it is not desirable that they should by issuing repeatedly Resolutions of this kind only betray their own weakness. They are issued perhaps only for fun, or to provide food for the Hindu newspapers.

52. Referring to the Resolution of Government recommending the appointment of Muhammadans in public service in a considerable number in Eastern Bengal and Assam, the *Hitwarta* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March exclaims whether this is the result of the flattery of Nawab Salimullah and whether the Muhammadans would take the appointments as clerks and muharrirs as well worth their adulation.

HITWARTA,  
March 3rd, 1907.

53. The *Manbhum* [Purulia] of the 26th February writes that stamps, post-cards, &c., cannot be got from the Purulia post office promptly, and that a man should be kept exclusively for this kind of work.

MANBHUM,  
Feb. 26th, 1907.

54. With reference to the allegations noticed in para. 52 of the Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 2nd March, the *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 2nd March publishes a letter from Babu Sarada Prasad Banarji, who says that he makes a living at the Howrah post office by filling up money-order forms there, and that he was absent from duty on the day of the occurrences complained of and that he cannot therefore be held responsible for what happened.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

55. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 26th February writes:—  
The people are being ground down by the taxes; the country is being laid waste by famine; nevertheless, in spite of living in the closest proximity to sources of supply of salt, lots of money are being paid to the foreigner for that article. What can be a matter of greater regret?

NIHAR,  
Feb. 26th, 1907.

56. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February writes that one may treat the case of Mr. Mant lightly as that of a youthful and irresponsible officer, but every act and every word of all European officials in the land from the Viceroy to the constable show that they are ill-disposed towards the people of the country. What right had Lord Curzon to call all Indians liars in his Convocation speech? What

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

The appointment of Muhammadans in public service in Eastern Bengal and Assam as resolved by Government.

Reflections suggested by the case of the *Punjabee*.

Salt manufacture in Bengal.

A disclaimer.

The Purulia post office.



principle of justice was it that actuated Lord Minto to describe the *swadesi* agitation in a manner as dishonest and thereby to add to the ill-feeling between the ruling race and the ruled? Is it not Lord Curzon, again, who is responsible for the revival of the use of the old word *feringhi* (a term used by Jehangir to indicate Europeans)?

**BNARAT MITRA,**  
March 2nd, 1907.

57. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March notes:—

Reflections suggested by the case of the *Punjabee*.

In fact it was the duty of Government to have seen a judicial enquiry made into the matter relating to the death of the constable Rafat Ali, at the notice of its report as published in the *Punjabee*, in order to ascertain the truth, or to have, at any rate, made a regular enquiry themselves and given publicity to its result, which would have eventually removed the doubt of the public that the constable was shot dead. Should the *Punjabee* have then failed to publish the view of Government resulting from these inquiries, it would have really been in for being taken to task. The present proceeding as adopted in the matter only leads the public to the conclusion that the mere talk of a native having been killed by a European is sufficient to throw the reporter into jail. As matters stand now, people will hardly believe that the accused have been punished for any offence on their part, much less that Rafat Ali was not shot dead, although he might have died as a result of an ugly fall from the horse. The whole affair, as it has been worked out, casts a slur upon the character of the Punjab Government.

By the by, the latter's attention was once recently drawn by an Association at Rawalpindi to an article published in the English paper of Lahore entitled the *Civil and Military Gazette* in which some unfavourable reflections were cast upon a race (other than the English) and the Government was requested to take steps in the matter. But although it pronounced the writing as scandalous it declined to take any proceedings. Now the question relevantly arises, why was the *Civil and Military Gazette* let off and the *Punjabee* considered liable to prosecution, when both were guilty of a like offence? Does not the proceeding drive one to the inference that it was the decided intention of the Punjab Government to protect an English-owned paper in preference to the one started by the natives?

As to the conduct of the trying Magistrate, only this much can be said, that his dealings with the convicted, so far as their being sent handcuffed into the jail is concerned, have been unworthy of a man of education and culture. The same remarks hold good for the jail authorities who were awaiting the Proprietor of the *Punjabee* to put him to the grinding mill.

**HITVARNA,**  
March 3rd, 1907.

58. Referring to the refusal of the Secretary of State for India, in reply

The case of the *Punjabee* as discussed in Parliament.

to a question lately asked in Parliament, to interfere in the proceeding of Government in connexion with the conviction of the Editor and the Proprietor of the *Punjabee* and to his scepticism about a general discontent among the Indian people, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March notes that Mr. Morley should, however, remember that the pouring of oil on red-hot fire causes it to rise into conflagration, adding that he should not have thus allowed himself to be misguided by the Anglo-Indian report and taken to do wrong instead of good.

**HITVARTA.**

59. Referring to the case of the *Punjabee*, the same paper notes that the

The *Punjabee*.

Government would have better allowed the parties aggrieved to seek their redress themselves instead of taking an active part in the matter, and remarks that the treatment meted out to the accused persons by the executives has been such as the wild beasts even will not be disposed to have recourse to in avenging themselves upon their enemies, with the conclusion that it is only according to the new law that the Government have been in a position to interfere in such matters, but that they should not, however, take advantage of it indiscriminately.

**HINDI BANGAVASI,**  
March 4th, 1907.

60. Referring to the conviction and the punishment of the Editor and

The *Punjabee*.

the Proprietor of the *Punjabee*, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th March expresses its regret at the ideas and thoughts of several English executives of the present day, who are under an impression that the more the Government is severe and authoritative in their dealings with the Indians, the more there is the chance of peace



prevailing in the country and of the stability of British rule in it. The paper proceeds that the result of this criminal proceeding has been, on the contrary, to create disaffection among the people, who have been generally holding meetings to express their sympathy with the convicted. Another result, has been to secure an extensive fame to the journal which was so long not so much known to the public, and a consequent increase in the number of its subscribers, and the worst of all to make the public disdainful to the British sense of justice.

61. Reporting the fact of a soldier, Private Kelly, having shot two persons on the occasion of the public performance anent the last *Muharram* at Poona and referring to that of the former being sent to jail and of the latter removed to the hospital, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March exclaims whether or not these soldiers are examined by any doctor as to their mental soundness before their being allowed to enter upon such a responsible commission as of preserving order and peace at any vast gathering.

62. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February writes that people have now lost confidence in the courts and so cannot be expected to pray, as they used to do before, for a separation of the judicial and executive functions. Mr. Morley's recent reply to Mr. Rees on this subject in Parliament cannot therefore make one in the least sorry.

63. Referring to Mr. Morley's reply to Mr. Rees's question in the House of Commons about the proposal to separate the judicial and executive functions in India, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March says that the necessity for the separation was admitted even by Lord Curzon himself. It is therefore inconceivable why Mr. Morley now pledges himself to be guided wholly by the opinion of the Government of India. The union of judicial and executive functions is used by the rulers of India as an instrument of oppression on the Indians. Can Lord Minto, under the circumstances, be expected to agree to a separation of these functions? It therefore seems that Mr. Morley has not really the desire to effect the separation.

64. Referring to the reply of the Secretary of State for India, to a question, lately, asked in Parliament with reference to the combination of the magisterial and executive functions in India, that he was certain that no alteration would be made in the existing system without the full consideration of the Government of India, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March notes that since the late Viceroy, Lord Curzon, had in purpose the separation of the two functions, it is inconceivable why the Secretary of State should now seek the advice of the India Government on the subject. The paper reflects that the Secretary of State, however, does not seem to be favourably disposed in the matter, and asks whether Lord Minto would, under the circumstances, press him to separate the two functions, exclaiming whether this is the liberality of the Secretary of State.

65. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th March writes that the scheme for the separation of the judicial and executive functions cannot now be dismissed lightly, seeing that even an Imperialist and arrogant administrator like Lord Curzon admitted its necessity, and the *Pioneer* now accordingly cunningly makes use of the present political agitation in the country in support of its plea against the proposed separation. But the *Pioneer* has not mentioned any specific instances in which the people defied a Magistrate's authority and obstructed him in the discharge of his duties. What the paper really means is that there is to be no separation of the judicial and executive functions, until at a sign from tyrannous civilians who are supporters of European merchants, the people break their vow to boycott things foreign. In other words, in the opinion of the *Pioneer*, the *swadeshi* agitation is equivalent to obstructing the Magistrate in the discharge of his duties, and so long as that agitation remains, there is to be no separation of the judicial and executive functions.

HITVARTA.  
March 3rd, 1907.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 1st, 1907.

HITVARTA,  
March 3rd, 1907.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 5th, 1907.



SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

66. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 28th February says:—

Bahadur Shah's grave in Burma. In reply to an appeal made by Maulvi Rafiki to the Government of Burma for permission to raise a tomb over Bahadur Shah's grave in Burma, the Chief Secretary to that Government has informed the Maulvi that "Government is not disposed to encourage any movement for a tomb over Bahadur Shah's grave." It is a sign of Government's remarkable generosity and unmeasured love for the Musalmans that the grave of Bahadur Shah is lying neglected and uncared for in distant Burma. And alas! the co-religionists of the late Emperor have not even the right to raise a stone in his honour. Bahadur Shah's offence was that in 1857 he joined the mutiny. As a matter of fact, he did nothing as a leader of the mutineers; the latter only gathered strength by holding him in their hands. And now the English are not disposed to show greater respect to the remains of Bahadur Shah than they show to those of an ordinary prisoner.

SANJIVANI.

67. The same paper publishes the following letter, and says that although the matter is trivial, it portrays the mental condition of officials and gives a good idea of the wisdom with which the administration of the country is being conducted in these days:—

A letter issued by the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division.

No. 2 L. Govt.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, RAJSHAHI DIVISION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (MEDICAL DISPENSARY BRANCH).

FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE RAJSHAHI DIVISION,

TO THE MAGISTRATE OF RANGPUR.

Dated, Camp Rajshahi, the 23rd January 1907.

SIR,

With reference to your memo. No. 269J., dated the 17th November 1906, forwarding for publication the names of the members of the Committee for the management of the Betgari Charitable Dispensary in your district, I have the honour to request you to be so good as to report at an early date the circumstances under which the title "Srijut" came to be prefixed to the names of certain gentlemen named therein.

I have, etc., etc.,

(Sd.) A. C. GUPTA,

for Commissioner.

JASOHAR,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

68. A correspondent of the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 28th February says,

Statistics of the weaving industry in Jessore.

that the panchayats of Paramaswarpur and other villages within the Narail subdivision of the Jessore district have received orders to furnish statistics as to how many weavers live in each of these villages, how many of them are actually engaged in the work of weaving and how many looms are being worked; and that this has greatly alarmed the poor weavers. The editor, however, assures them that Government does not mean any harm to them. Those who think that the authorities will return to the methods which were used by the English 150 years ago to destroy the weaving industry of Bengal, are very much mistaken.

JASOHAR.

69. The same paper says that the visit recently paid by Mr. Sen, the District Magistrate of Jessore, to Panjia, in the Jessore district, has won for him the blessings of the local people. Officials of the type of Mr. Sen are required to establish good feelings between the Government and the people.

Mr. Sen, the District Magistrate of Jessore.



70. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March writes that the complaints of Indians against their Government will to a large extent be removed if that Government conforms in practice to rules which are not now acted on, and which give the world at large a misleading idea as to the absence of colour prejudice in the administration of that Government. The duplicity of Government in all its acts is most disgraceful. Englishmen boast that they have given to Indians the right of free speech—a right which is denied to Russian subjects by their Government. But the press in India is free only to the eye of the outside world. What freedom is left to it under the sedition law? Are the recent prosecutions of the *Punjabee* and the *Viharee* the result of liberty of the press? Are newspapers in England prosecuted for publishing articles like those for which the *Viharee* and the *Punjabee* have been brought under the rigours of the law?

Then, again, the law in India makes no distinction between the European and the Indian. This principle of equal treatment for both races was affirmed by the late Queen and is one of the cardinal principles on which the British Empire in India is professedly based. Everything is right therefore so far as the written law goes. But no Indian needs to be reminded how in actual practice difference of colour affects the course of justice. Who cannot see that, although guilty of far more aggravated offences of the kind for which the *Punjabee* has been convicted, certain European newspapers are escaping prosecution? Has any one yet heard of a European having been hanged for murdering an Indian?

71. Referring to Mr. Morley's statement in Parliament that he does not believe that there is at present a widespread feeling of discontent in India, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March says that the Secretary of State should remember that it would not be judicious to supply more fuel to the fire, and warns him against creating a serious state of affairs by placing implicit faith in the reports of Anglo-Indians.

72. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 2nd March complains of mismanagement at the Howrah General Hospital. The indoor patients do not often get their medicines and meals at the proper hours, and outdoor patients also suffer no end of trouble, owing to the conduct of the Assistant Surgeon. The Civil Surgeon is said to attend only rarely, and the Assistant Surgeon usually leaves his compounders to attend to the patients.

73. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March says that by appointing Mr. Manmatha Nath Bhattacharyya as Accountant-General of Eastern Bengal and Assam, Government has impartially rewarded merit.

74. A proposal, says the *Hindustan* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March, was recently made in the House of Commons by Mr. Cox to the effect that Australia should be saddled with a larger share of the naval expenditure of the Empire than it at present bears. This proposal was opposed both by Mr. Balfour and by Mr. Churchill. Australia is a powerful colony. It is practically independent of British control. India alone is completely under British subjection. Those who wish to place India on an equal footing with the colonies, desire an impossibility. Englishmen in England will rather forsake England than grant independence to India. When England will be ruined, they will come over to India and settle in it.

### III.—LEGISLATION.

75. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 21st February says that for the following weighty reasons there should be no diversity of law in Bengal and Eastern Bengal:—

(1) The Salimabad pargana is divided between the Backergunge district in Eastern Bengal and the Khulna district in Bengal in such a manner that in many cases lands held by right created by one and the same document

HITAVADI,  
March 1st, 1907

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 1st, 1907.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

BANGAVASI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

HINDUSTAN,  
March 2nd, 1907.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 21st, 1907.



or law lie partly in the former and partly in the latter district. Many lands are also similarly divided between the Faridpur, Jessore and Nadia districts and between the Pabna and Nadia districts.

(2) The Daleswar river flowing between the Backergunge and Khulna districts is constantly destroying and forming lands along its two banks, so that in some places Khulna is losing lands and Backergunge gaining them, and in some places Backergunge is losing lands and Khulna gaining them by the action of the river. Law-suits concerning these lands should be decided by one and the same law.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

JASOHAR,  
Feb. 21st, 1907.

76. A correspondent of the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 21st February says that almost every tenth man within the Magura subdivision of the Jessore district is starving. When such severe distress prevails in the months of *Magh* and *Falgun*, one shudders to think what the situation will be in *Asarh* and *Sraavan*.

JASOHAR,  
Feb. 28th, 1907.

Reported distress in the Jessore district.

TAMALIKA,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

Realisation of settlement costs in Eastern Bengal.

77. A correspondent of the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 28th February speaks of the prevalence of distress in Parameswarapur, Magura, district Jessore. Referring to Mr. Lyon's reply to the question asked by the Maharaja of Dinajpur in the Eastern Bengal and Assam Legislative Council about the realisation of settlement costs, the *Tamaliika* [Tamluk] of the 23rd February asks whether starvation, suicide, and murder of children are the results of a good harvest, and says that zamindars are obliged to realise rents to meet the revenue demands of Government.

NIHAR,  
Feb. 26th, 1907.

79. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 26th February asks why the price of rice is rising in Bengal if, as Mr. Carlyle has said in the Legislative Council, it has not been cornered.

A corner in rice.

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
Feb. 27th, 1907.

80. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 27th February writes that at present 8 to 8½ seers of rice is all that can be got for a rupee. What the state of things will be in *Asarh* or *Sraavan* is known to God alone.

The prices of rice in Murshidabad.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
March 1st, 1907.

81. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st March writes that even in famine years, the prices of rice have not been so high for a long stretch of time as in this year. What these prices will be in the future, God alone knows.

The prices of rice.

BANGAVASI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

82. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March speaks of the prevalence of severe distress owing to failure of crops in village Burhagram, Kashinathpur, in the Pabna district.

Distress in a village in the Pabna district.

BASUMATI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

83. An Anglo-Indian contemporary, writes the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March, says that last year there was not much distress in Madras due to scarcity of food-grains, because only Rs. 23,000 were required for relief purposes. But our contemporary should remember that many District Magistrates and Subdivisional Magistrates have a knack of ignoring the existence of distress in famine-stricken places, and even to return to Government money granted for the relief of really famine-stricken people. We remember that on one occasion a native official went to a famine-stricken village in the Backergunge district to inspect the condition of its inhabitants, and afterwards said that he did not see any sign of famine there, because the women of the place had not yet been driven by hunger to sell their chastity.

Famine and officials.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

JASOHAR,  
Feb. 21st, 1907.

84. Referring to an article which is said to have appeared in the *Empire* newspaper under the heading, "If there were another mutiny," the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 21st February adds poverty to the other probable causes of mutiny.

Poverty and mutiny.



enumerated by that paper, and remarks that unless the advance of poverty in the country be checked, a mutiny will indeed be inevitable, for what sin is there on earth which a hungry man cannot commit?

85. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 23rd February says that on the 17th idem there was a *jatra* performance of a play named *Matripuja* on the grounds of the Industrial Exhibition by Bhushan Chandra Das and his party. The book is written by one Kunja Behari Ganguli and in it a parallelism has been drawn between the war of Sumbha and Nisumbha described in the *Markandeya Purana* and current political events in the country. One passage in the book runs as follows, "Many *Devatas* had taken the oath to deliver *Swarga*, but when they saw the angry frown of the *Daitya* they broke it. They cleanly slipped off after placing some *Devatas* like Surendra, Rabi Thakur, and Aswini Kumar and a child *Devata* in the front." This, says the writer, reminded us of our national oath and sent a thrill through our frame. The play was unique in its teachings of patriotism, love of religion, national fellow-feeling, unity, patience, and adherence to one's determination.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

"A praise of Englishmen."

86. The *Yugantar* [Calcutta] of the 24th February writes as follows:—

YUGANTAR,  
Feb. 24th, 1907.

#### A PRAISE OF ENGLISHMEN.

[An adaptation of some writing of Bankim Babu's.]

- (1) O Englishmen, we bow to you from a distance.
- (2) You have many shapes; you are possessed of a well-developed body and vast wealth. O ye Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (3) You are the oppressor of the patriots; you are the maker of laws and like things; you are the wielder of India's destinies. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (4) You win battles by diplomacy; you oppress school-boys with clubs; you assume a ferocious attitude in your attempt to ruin *swadeshi*; you insult justice in the law-courts. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (5) In the guise of rulers you bring famine into India; in the guise of merchants you plunder India of all its wealth; in the guise of tea-planters you suck the blood of coolies in Assam. O you many-shaped Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (6) You are Indra, the wielder of thunder; you are ruling India by the threat of cannon and rifle; you are the moon, and the income-tax and various other taxes are the spots on your virtues which you yourselves describe as spotless; you are the wind, and like a storm you, by means of the railway, bear away India's food-grains; you are the god of the seas, because your stomach is fathomless like the sea, and all India's wealth has failed to fill the pit. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (7) You are the remover of the darkness of our ignorance. It is your light which has lighted us. You are therefore our sun. You are reducing all India to ashes; you are therefore fire. You oppress the weak; you are therefore *Yama*. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (8) Though white in complexion, you are the Krishna *avatar* of the Kali era; your hat supplies the place of Krishna's crest-dress; your pantaloons of his back-cloth; the kicks of your booted feet of the much-prized dust of his feet; your whip of the fascinating flute; your harsh voice of his call to the cows Syamali and Dhabali; your white-skinned wife of his Radha. Finding all these combined in you, we mistook you for Krishna and therefore ran after you in vain like his wives pining at the separation from you. O you white-skinned Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.
- (9) You are the Murari, flute in hand. The sweet strains which you, in the shape of Morley, send forth from your fascinating flute from your



cow-pen of the India Office bewilder the men of our country, who may be compared to Krishna's wives. O you Englishmen, husbands of Krishna's wives in the Kali era, we therefore bow to you from a distance

(10) You are the Kamadeva (god of love) who moved Sankara's mind. As of yore Rati (goddess of love) ran after you, so we, too, fascinated by your wonderful looks and many good qualities, are now running after you. Therefore, O you Englishmen, who are like the husband of Rati, we bow to you from a distance.

(11) O you husband of Rati, as Sankara hit by your arrow consumed you by the fire of his anger, so we in order to free ourselves from your influence want to conquer you. So, O you Englishmen, we bow to you from a distance.

(12) O you possessor of terrible loveliness, the sight of your blood-stained teeth, extending to your ears and intent upon grinding all that the Indian possesses, makes us wish that you departed hence and went to a distance. Your looks are not pleasant. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(13) Seeing India which is under your subjection and carefully grasped by you in your various guises of ruler, merchant, religious priest, teacher, protector, devourer, and plunderer which are endowed with desire, anger, greed and ignorance, we are led to take you for India's *Yama* or destroyer. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(14) O doer of evil, we do not want you any more; you have done enough evil; we will not flatter you any more; we shall no longer act so as to keep you in humour. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(15) You are an evil spirit. So long we took you for a god and offered you worship; you misled us and accepted that worship. We have now got the *mantra* (formula) which will exorcise the evil spirit, and we shall exorcise you. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(16) You are the *Virata Purusa* (the giant form assumed by the godhead in the *Gita*), with a thousand heads, a thousand eyes and a thousand legs; you exist over all India; you know our hearts. Your numberless spies bring to your notice everything we do, everything we say, and everything we think about. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(17) O enchanter, overcome by the delusion spread by you, we sacrificed our caste and creed and served you with all our heart and soul. We were deluded by your trickery and became to you as a parrot taught by you. We made you our pole star. But now we want to be freed from that condition. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(18) O cruel-hearted, we ran after you and served you like wives devoted to their husbands. But you kicked and insulted us. We shall no longer pocket that insult. O you cruel-hearted Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(19) You are the *Kalpurusa*, because you were so long the wielder of India's destiny. But we want to-day to become the wielder of our own destinies. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

(20) O many-shaped enemy of India, we will not allow you to do us more harm. We want to take the country in our own hands, we want ourselves to become the lords of India. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

O subjugator, we want to free ourselves from your embrace and to become independent; we want to turn India into a *swaraj*. O you subjugators, O Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

O Englishmen, we want to square up our accounts with you; we want to settle matters with you; we want to free ourselves from your embrace of love. O you Englishmen, we therefore bow to you from a distance.

87. The *Swades* [Calcutta] of the 25th February writes that *swaraj* will never be gained in dissociation from the English.

*Swaraj* in India.

The foundations of *swaraj* were laid by Lord Ripon about 20 years ago, when elective District Boards and Municipalities were inaugurated. Indians should rather strengthen their association with these local self-governing bodies, if they desire the establishment of *swaraj*.



in the country, and not boycott them, as they are counselled by certain people to do. Self-governing institutions have been in existence in India for such a long time, but they have hitherto been regarded with indifference by the people. Rate-payers have large rights over the Municipalities, but for want of education most of them know not what these are. The consequence has been that Municipalities instead of being self-governing bodies have in many cases passed under the control of cliques. Government may have something to answer for, for this evil, but the main share of the responsibility for this state of things lies with the people, who have not been able to understand the value of the rights that have been conferred on them. They want *swaraj*, but they are incapable of managing properly their strictly internal concerns. There is therefore nothing surprising in the fact that Government should hesitate to grant rights of *swaraj* to them.

88. The *Education Gazette* [Chinsura] of the 1st March writes:—

The English *raj* and Indians.

All Indians are attached to the English *raj*, because they have now been brought under one sway and are well governed. Further, that *raj* is pledged to gradually extend self-government amongst the people. What terrible offence has that Government been guilty of, that it becomes necessary to talk of collecting arms and revolting against it and of seducing its sepoys? God in His mercy has given us an opportunity of learning from the English the virtues of patriotism and organisation. It has not yet been found possible for us to start a jute mill after the manner of the similar European concerns. We have no steamer services of our own, and iron joists and brass sheets have still to be imported from abroad. Have we natives then already become worthy enough to expel the English and start a well-ordered independent Government of our own? If the patience of the Government of India were not greater than that of any other Government in the world, then writings like those of the *Yugantar* newspaper in Calcutta would not have been transmitted by the post office. That paper is doing great harm to the people and the country. We want Government to impart to the masses primary education and instruction in drill. We want Government to form at least one regiment of Bengali soldiers, who by service at the Frontier may remove the reproach of national cowardice. And yet here is this contemporary of ours hinting that the admission of Bengalis into the army would be used by men of his party to seduce other sepoys from their loyalty. Englishmen often accuse Bengalis of being cowards and liars. But this newspaper has said worse things of his countrymen: it has charged them with ingratitude and being untrue to their salt. Look up to the Englishman with attachment as to a teacher. Rid your mind of all ideas of revolution.

EDUCATION  
GAZETTE,  
March 1st, 1907.

89. Referring to a fresh discovery made by the *Pioneer* newspaper of a "Golden Bengal" broad-sheet, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st March says:—

DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 1st, 1907.

We are at a loss to make out how the *Pioneer* alone of all the newspapers in India gets these broad-sheets, and fear that somebody is sending these broad-sheets to the *Pioneer* with the same object with which a mischievous boy waves a red rag before a bull. We have enquired into the matter, but have been unable to secure any of these broad-sheets, or find out any proof of their circulation. If in consequence of the *Pioneer's* publication some hot-headed people of the country, who had never had any idea of forming secret societies, should actually take the mad step of forming such societies, the *Pioneer* would be morally responsible for it. If any native-owned newspaper had published this document, the authorities would have hurried him to the prison.

90. Referring to the fact of Mr. Gokhale's having dined with the Muhammadans on the occasion of his last visit to Lucknow and criticizing the reflections of its contemporary

JAIN GAZETTE,  
March 1st, 1907.

*Anand* on the subject, the *Jain Gazette* [Arrah] of the 1st March expresses its sense of regret at this irreligious action of the prime leader of the Hindu community who was only the last year adored as a deity by the Hindus at Benares.

91. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March says that the partition of Bengal has given birth to a revival of Hinduism in Eastern Bengal. Eastern Bengal will never forsake the discipline ordained by religion, and it is hoped that gradually the light of this discipline will spread from Eastern Bengal to Western Bengal.

BANGAVASI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

Effect of the partition on  
Eastern Bengal.



DAILY HITAVADI,  
March 2nd, 1907.

92. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes that the plea that the sudden retirement of the English from Bengal and the cessation of English influence in India. Bengal is puerile, and that, in reply to it, it may be urged that there is no likelihood at all of any such contingency arising and it is not desired by the Bengalis either. The amount of predominance which will be left to England in India, even after the establishment of self-government on colonial lines in the latter country, will not certainly be inadequate to her protecting the weaker races of the country against the stronger. Further, in the contingency of a complete cessation of English influence in India, it should be remembered that for the wielding of modern fire-arms, intelligence more than physical prowess is what is needed. So long therefore as the Bengalis have strength enough left to them to pull the trigger of a rifle, they need not feel any anxiety as to the protection of their lives and property.

BHARAT MITRA,  
March 2nd, 1907.

93. Alluding to the sword argument of the *Times* of London, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March seeks to prove by historical references that it was not by their sword that the English conquered India, but that they came to acquire its possession through the perfidy of the chief officers, the trustees, of the Indian princes.

HITVARTTA,  
March 3rd, 1907.

94. In the course of a lengthy article entitled "Rise and fall," the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March quotes the following lines of an English poet in order to remind the English of their condition during the Roman occupation of England, and also of their cries for relief, with the remarks that though the English, so much blinded by imperialism, fail to appreciate the aspirations of the Indians, the latter would, according to the natural order of events, advance in life, do what they (the English) may to disappoint their aims:—

"Rome shall perish! write that word  
In the blood that she has spilt;  
Perish hopeless and abhorred,  
Deep in ruin as in guilt.

Rome for empire far renowned  
Tramples on a thousand states.  
Soon her pride shall kiss the ground,  
Hark! the Gaul is at her gates."

YUGANTAR,  
March 3rd, 1907.

95. The *Yugantar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March comments as follows on the idea that to regain independence, Indians need never take up arms against the English, and that, if Indians refuse to accept service under the English, or to assist them in any way, being the handful of foreigners that they are, they will not be able to keep this vast country in subjection and their rule will collapse in no time:—

"The establishment of *swarajya*."

There is no doubt that this idea is true in a great measure, but it is debateable if it is wholly true. No matter how very much the people of the country may come to hate the English, it does not seem that there will ever be any absolute non-existence of men capable of service under the English Government. The number of persons in enjoyment of salaries from the English is infinitesimal in comparison with the total population of the country, so that it is not proper to imagine that at least some men will not be tempted by money into accepting service. Hatred of the English is strong enough in Ireland; but even there a class of men are tempted by self-interest and ready to carry about the shoes of the English. Again, at the time when America was enthusiastic for independence, a party existed which did not agree to the severance of the connexion between England and America. So what reason have we for concluding that things should be different in this country?

Furthermore, given the existence of British rule, the establishment of COMPLETE self-government does not seem very well possible. Granted that we establish our own courts of justice, where is the means for repressing those who, ignoring the *swadeshi* courts, will go to sell themselves to the foreigner? We may refuse to recognise the authority of the foreigner, but the foreigner is not prepared to do without us. Civil suits may indeed be decided between ourselves, but in the case of criminal suits, the English will seek to make their own existence felt. If the Government of the country is to be conducted on



the principle of a mutual sharing out of authority, then where does self-government come in, and how is slavery removed? It is not permissible to enter into a compromise with the foreigner. Either you live or I live,—this must be the principle of action.

In brief, passive resistance is being preached only in deference to the law. We are still far too eager to shape our course of action so that it may not go against the Englishman's law. Redress without the aid of arms is not against the Englishman's law and is therefore logical and proper—an idea like this is really illogical. The English have made laws for their own convenience, and for bringing about the ruin of our country. In what sense are we bound to obey those laws? The Englishman says, "Transportation is provided for whoever says anything against me." If without opposition we accept this law, then we submit to slavery under the English. If it be against the law to call a thief a thief, then doing the right consists in disobeying and not in obeying that law. The laws of the English are based on their brute strength. If we want to liberate ourselves from those laws, it is brute strength that it is necessary for us therefore to accumulate. It is there, then, that the right course of action now lies for us.

It will not do not to go against the law for all time. *Swarajya* will never be established if in the humiliation of truth is sought protection for self. In our country must be re-enacted what has happened in other countries. There is no other door of admission into life but death.

You will inquire how, being weak, we can enter on a trial of strength with the powerful English.

Be not afraid. Not very many listened to the young Mazzini on the day when, wounded to his heart's core by the sufferings and poverty of Italy, he firmly resolved to free his country from its bondage. But to-day Italy has expiated her own sin, and has washed away in human blood the blackness of her stigma. Oh ye sons of Bengal, worshippers of *sakti*, will you be averse from that? Under the stress of plague and famine, *lakhs* upon *lakhs* of people are dying every year in the country. And yet are not ten thousand sons of Bengal prepared to embrace death to avenge the humiliation of their fatherland? The number of Englishmen in the entire country is not more than a *lakh* and a half. And what is the number of English officials in each district? With a firm resolve you can bring English rule to an end in a single day. The time has come to make the Englishman understand that enjoying the sweets of dominion in another's country after wrongfully taking possession of it, will not be permitted to continue for ever. Let him now realise full well that the life of a thief who steals other's property is no longer an easy one in this country. Begin yielding up a life after taking a life. Dedicate your life as an offering at the temple of liberty. Without bloodshed, the worship of the goddess will not be accomplished.

96. The same paper has an article in which are laid down methods by which revolutionists should collect money, which is the sinews of war. Those methods are, according to it, plundering of the people, plundering of the established Government, and finally realisation of taxes.

YUGANTAR.

97. Referring to the *swadeshi* agitation in Burma and to the *Englishman's* advice to the Indians not to appropriate the trade and the land of the Burmese, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says that its contemporary had better offer a like advice to its own countrymen in reference to their mercantile dealings with India, adding that the Indians would then of their own motion cease trading with Burma and purchasing land in that country.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
March 4th, 1907.

## URIYA PAPERS.

98. In giving an account of the sayings and doings of the Amir of Kabul in India, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 23rd February observes that the Amir is an intelligent and shrewd ruler possessing liberal views regarding many topics of the day. The writer advises the Hindus and Muhammadans in India to act up to the instructions of the Amir, which are not only liberal, but just and wise in their nature.

UTKALDIPIKA.  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.



UTKALDIPIKA.

The Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and East Bengal thanked.

99. The same paper thanks the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and East Bengal for their resolutions to withdraw the Jute Bill from their respective Legislative Councils.

UTKALDIPIKA.

100. The same paper states that a public meeting was held on the

A public meeting in Puri.

Baradanda in front of the Jagannath Temple in Puri, under the presidency of the Swami of the Sankaracharji Math, with the object of protesting against the illegal action of the Balasore delegate deputed to Calcutta to give votes in favour of a municipal candidate from Orissa, in which it was resolved to request the Government to appoint, in view of the existing state of things, a member to the Bengal Legislative Council from Orissa.

UTKALDIPIKA.

101. Referring to the case Balmakunda Kanungoi *versus* Gobinda Ratha,

Balmakunda Kanungoi *versus* Gobinda Ratha.

the same paper points out that though Gobinda Ratha offered sufficient bail in time, it was not accepted, while the defendant was sent to jail. The writer attributes the injustice either to the law or procedure, or to the officers who administered that law or procedure.

UTKALDIPIKA.

102. Referring to the scale of house rent which has been sanctioned

Special house rents to officers living in Calcutta.

for the benefit of those officers of Government who are compelled by the nature of their duties to reside in Calcutta, the same paper points out that the scheme is intended to benefit the European officers only. Something should have been done in the interests of officers drawing small salaries and living in Calcutta.

GARJATBASINI,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

103. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 23rd February approves of the

An appointment approved.

appointment of Babu Srinibas Singh as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Orissa Garjats. He is a native of Angul and had discharged his duties as a Sub-Inspector of Schools in that State satisfactorily.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
Feb. 16th, 1907.

104. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 16th February is of opinion

Loss of franchise by Orissa.

that the representative of the Balasore Municipality did not act up to his instructions and that, as a consequence, Orissa lost its franchise.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Feb. 25th, 1907.

The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 25th February writes an article on the same subject and points out that the Balasore representative is a relative of Raja Baikunth Nath De Bahadur for whom he at first voted. When he found that the case of his relative was hopeless, he went over to the other side, though the votes for Mr. Das equalled those for the Ranchi candidate. This was a course dictated not by a clear conscience, but by passion engendered by the defeat of one, who is held dear, at the hands of the rival. It is a matter of surprise that when the whole country is indignant at the conduct of the Balasore representative, Raja Baikunth Nath De Bahadur has been calmly looking upon the scene. He has not even thought it worth his while to contradict as a leader the depreciated reports of the meetings published in the Calcutta papers, though he has such a high opinion of himself as to stand as a candidate for the Legislative Council. The writer believes that Orissa needs an independent representative, considering that it contains a distinct nationality and that an important addition was made to it only a year ago.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Feb. 20th, 1907.

105. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 20th February states

The representative of the Balasore Municipality defended.

that the Commissioner of Orissa went to Balasore to enquire whether the representative of the Balasore Municipality exceeded his instructions or acted in any way that might be called illegal, and found that the representative did neither exceed his instructions nor act contrary to the desires of the Balasore Municipality.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,

106. The same paper attributes the discomfiture of the Municipalities

Disunion among the Uriya leaders.

in Orissa to misunderstandings between the leaders of public opinion in that Province. Each candidate wanted to throw his rival overboard and the result was that no one was successful. The natives of Orissa should now learn to unite.



107. The same paper thanks Mr. Surya Kumar Agasti, the Collector and Magistrate of Balasore, for his success in making Balasore a centre of Matriculation Examination for the Calcutta University. This measure of his will no doubt give great relief to a large number of students.

URIYA AND  
NAVABAND,.

108. The same paper points out that a large number of middle vernacular and middle English schools in the northern part of the Balasore district that were drawing aid from the Balasore District Board were reduced or abolished by an injudicious withdrawal of their grants, and requests Mr. Agasti, the District Magistrate of Balasore, to revive these institutions, intended for the education of boys and girls in the northern part of the Balasore district, without any more delay.

URIYA AND  
NAVABAND,.

109. A correspondent of the same paper points out that a large volume of water goes out of the Suvarnarekha at a point called Sunakonia, passes through the Chipina bridge on the Grand Trunk Road, and after inundating several acres of land, falls into the Suvarnarekha at Dahamunda. When the Suvarnarekha is in flood, this branch or distributary does great injury to villages Sahapur, Arinaga, Birabagh, Netua, Jalkaparia, Ambapunja, Napo, Ambodia, Ikra, Khalina, Jaladha, Olara, Baghpenyi, Jharapimpala, Dahamunda, Baganbaria, Sampattia, Sarakotia, Bamsabari, Kamarsalia, Nahara, Koseina, Ami, and other villages belonging to the Midnapore and Balasore districts. The water of this branch cannot flow out easily, owing to the resistance offered by the Bhua embankment. The correspondent suggests that attempts should be made to stop the outlet at Sunakama and to minimise the resisting force of the Bhua embankment. Unless urgent steps are taken to do the needful, a large number of villages will, as pointed out above, be simply depopulated.

URIYA AND  
NAVABAND,.

110. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 25th February states that the total disregard of the claims of local men to the many appointments that were recently made in the Judicial Department and the Executive Engineer's office at Sambalpur has caused consternation in that town. Since the means of communication between Cuttack and Sambalpur is far from being what it ought to be, nothing like a change and far less a revolution of the existing system of administration should be contemplated, especially when it involves hardships upon the people, in view of the fact that the Government have undertaken before the provincial redistribution to keep intact the rights and privileges of the people affected by that scheme. The people of Sambalpur have scarcely forgot the injustice done to them by totally depriving them of many appointments created in the Excise Department, but they fully hoped that of the two dozen appointments of the Judicial Department, at least some might fall to their lot. With the exception of five men, who had already been appointed in the Judicial Department, not a single local man was appointed.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Feb. 25th, 1907.

111. The same paper is of opinion that the Appellate Court and the judicial records that are at present in Sambalpur should not be transferred to Cuttack, because the distance between the two towns is very large and because such a procedure will entail a heavy loss upon the people of Sambalpur. The people of Sambalpur are extremely loyal, so much so that while some irreconcilables are trying to create a movement for taking back Sambalpur to the Central Provinces, they have issued a notice warning their brethren to keep aloof from such a movement. Indeed such a people deserve every possible concession from the Government.

UTKALDARPAN.

The same paper states that a large meeting was held at the Brahmapura Temple in Sambalpur, under the presidency of Babu Satyabadi Barhi, with the object of protesting against the proposed transfer of the Judicial Appellate Court and records from Sambalpur to Cuttack. It was resolved to submit a memorial to Government, praying for the retention of the Judicial Appellate Court and the judicial records at Sambalpur.



UTKALDARPA.

112. The same paper supports the protest of the *Utkaldipika* against theProtest against the proposed interference with the *Swargadwar* in Puri.proposed discharge of the soiled water of the Puri drains into the Bay of Bengal at or near the *Swargadwar* on the firm ground that it is against the recognised policy of Government to interferewith the religious rites of the people. The writer has every hope that the *Swargadwar* will remain unmolested and that the point of discharge will be removed to a great distance from that holy place.UTKALDIPKA.  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.113. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 23rd February gives an account

Reception of the Collector of Cuttack at Balarampur.

of the reception which the Raja of Balarampur in the Jajpur subdivision of the Cuttack district accorded to the Collector of Cuttack, who went

there on tour, accompanied by the Subdivisional Officer of Jajpur and the District Superintendent of Police, Cuttack. The roads and streets in Balarampur were decorated with flowers and festoons. A meeting was held in which a letter of congratulation was read. The Collector thanked the Raja for his labours, after which distribution of *atar* and *pān* brought the proceedings of the meeting to a close. Three days were spent in hunting and other sports, in which Mrs. Garrett and her children took part.URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Feb. 20th, 1907.114. The Dehurda correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore]

Cholera in Balasore.

of the 20th February states that cholera prevails in the northern part of the Balasore district and that

many gentlemen have already died of the disease.

UTKALDARPA,  
Feb., 25th, 1907.115. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 25th February states that

Measles in Sambalpur.

measles prevails there and that almost every house is infected with that disease.

UTKALDIPKA.  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.116. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 23rd February approves the

Extension of the grain allowance to ministerial and other officers of Government.

grant of grain compensation allowance to ministerial officers up to the end of March current by Government, and is of opinion that the allowance may be continued for a longer period, as there is no

prospect of the price of rice or paddy being reduced in the near future.

UTKALDIPKA.

The high price of rice in Madhupur.

117. The Madhupur correspondent of the same paper states that rice is not available even at 8 seers per rupee.

UTKALDIPKA.

The mango in Cuttack.

118. The Balarampur correspondent of the same paper states that mango blossoms are seen

here and there in that place.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD.  
Feb. 20th, 1907.119. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 20th February regrets

The export of rice from Balasore and its economic effects.

to note that the constant export of rice from the Balasore district is reducing the quantity of food-stuffs available for the consumption of the people

residing in that district and that the economic effects of such a transaction will be simply disastrous.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,

120. The same paper states that Modhoi Nayak, a resident of the Athgarh

A man-eater bagged.

State, killed a tiger in mauza Dalijora which had committed depredations in many villages in that

State. The dead tiger was brought to the Cuttack Collectorate for inspection by the local authorities.

MANORAMA,  
Feb. 25th, 1907.121. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 25th February regrets to learn

The death of the Nawab of Bhawalpur mourned.

that the Nawab of Bhawalpur, who had proceeded to Mecca on pilgrimage accompanied by a large number of his co-religionists, expired at Port Aden

on his way back to India. The Nawab was a patriot and had done much to further the interests of his subjects, who are now bewailing his loss in piteous tones.

UTKALDIPKA,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.122. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 23rd February states that in the

The weather in Cuttack.

last week the winter became milder than before, that the sky was cloudy at times, and that there

were a few good showers of rain in the interior of the Cuttack district.

UTKALDIPKA.

123. The Jhankar correspondent of the same paper states that a few

The weather and the mango in Jhankar.

showers of rain which fell recently in that place have helped cultivation work, though the mango blossoms are expected to be injured thereby.



124. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 23rd February states that on the nights of the 17th and 18th February, good showers of rain fell in Talcher, and that on the night of the 18th a rainbow was seen in the sky.

The weather in Talcher.

GARJATBASINI,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

125. The Athgarh correspondent of the same paper states that there were slight showers of rain in that State in the last week and that the hailstones which came after those showers did great injury to the mango crop.

The weather and the mango in Athgarh.

GARJATBASINI,

126. The Bamra correspondent of the *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 16th February states that slight rain fell in that State last week and that more rain is shortly expected there.

The weather in Bamra.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
Feb. 16th, 1907.

127. The *Utkaldarpan* [Sambalpur] of the 25th February gives a brief notice of the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition held at Huma in Sambalpur district, and observes that this Exhibition was superior to that of the last year in many respects and that the exhibits presented in the Exhibition bore unmistakable testimony to the industrial and agricultural advancement of the district. The Deputy Commissioner himself graced the Exhibition with his presence and gave away the prizes to the deserving exhibitors. The writer is of opinion that such exhibitions should be held in every district of Orissa.

An Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition in Sambalpur.

UTKALDARPAN,  
Feb. 25th, 1907.

128. The same paper states that there was slight rain in Sambalpur in the last week.

UTKALDARPAN.

129. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 23rd February gives a detailed account of the proceedings of an annual meeting of the Cuttack Gymnasium, under the presidency

UTKALDIPIKA,  
Feb. 23rd, 1907.

A gymnasium at Cuttack.

of Babu Janakinath Basu, M.A., B.L., in which prizes were awarded to successful candidates. The meeting was graced by the presence of many distinguished gentlemen of the locality, among whom were Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., Ray Jageswar Chandra Bahadur and others. The gymnasium consists of junior and senior members, all of whom belong to the schools and the college in Cuttack. The financial position of the gymnasium is in a satisfactory state for, after defraying all the expenses in the last year, it has at its disposal a balance of Rs. 97. The junior members pay subscriptions at the rate of two annas per month, while the senior members pay at the rate of four annas per month. It appears that the local gentry are interested in the movement for Babu Ramsankar Rai made a donation of Rs. 30, followed by Rai Jogeswar Chandra Bahadur, who offered a valuable silk *chaddar*, and Babu Baikunth Nath Dutt, who made a donation of Rs. 5. Babu Nemai Charan Mitra and the President promised to pay Rs. 5 and Rs. 10, respectively. The writer wishes a prosperous career to the gymnasium.

130. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 25th February supports the proposal started in the *Utkalbasi* that all the newspapers in Orissa should be amalgamated together, with head-quarters at a central station, and their offices united together under the management of an able editor.

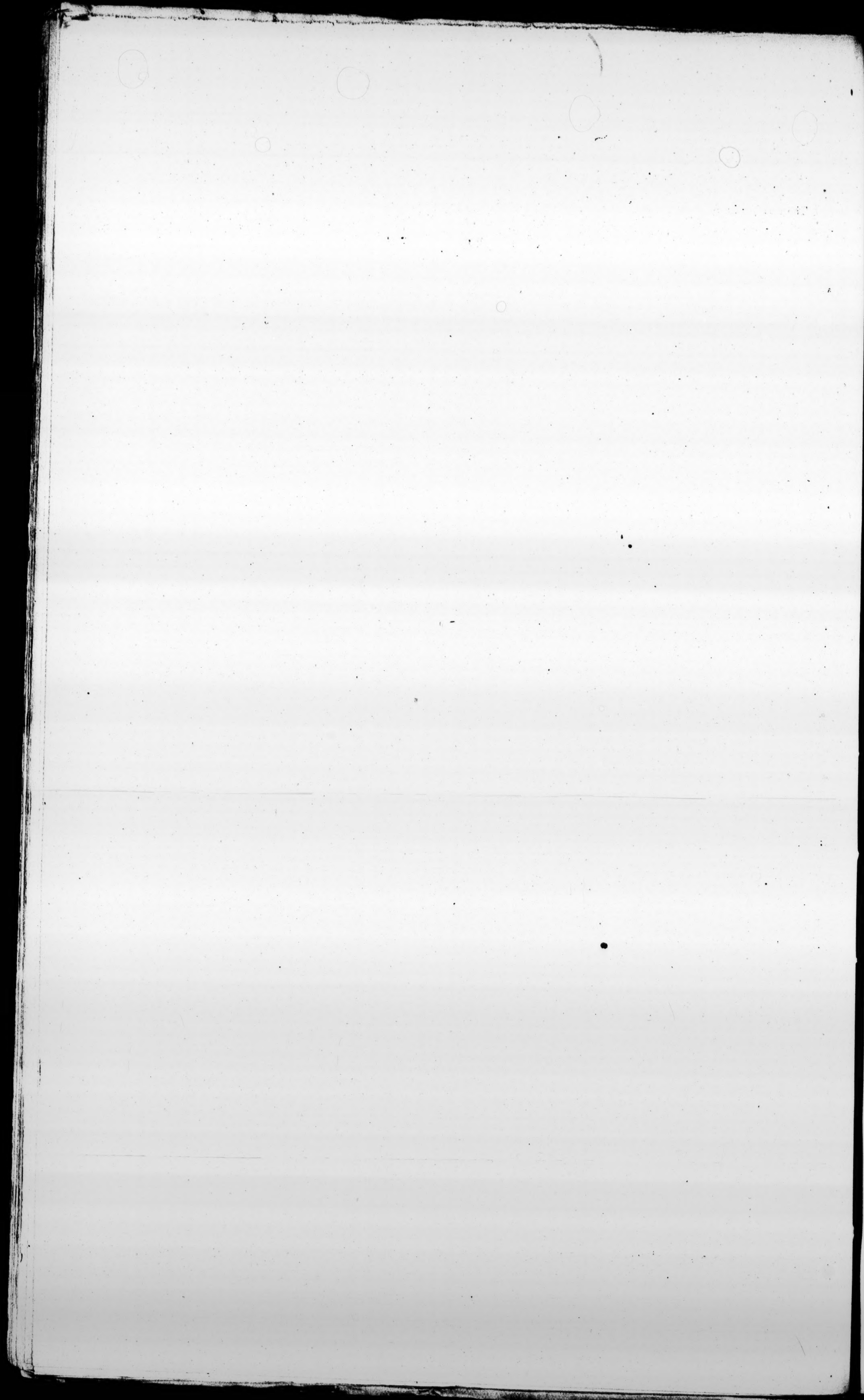
A proposal to unite the newspapers in Orissa.

MANORAMA,  
Feb. 25th, 1907.

BIDHUBHUSHAN MUKERJEA,  
*First Asst. to the Bengali Translator, in charge.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
*The 9th March, 1907.*







# REPORT (PART II)

ON

## NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

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## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

222. While refraining from crediting the rumour that Nawab Salimulla ordered the Muhammadan rioters to loot the Hindu shops at Comilla, the *Bengalee* is certain that the disturbance was the direct outcome of the Nawab's visit. It is greatly regretted that while others have been endeavouring to cement the union between Hindus and Muhammadans, the Nawab should have come to Comilla apparently with the object of creating a breach between the two communities. In spite of the display of fanaticism and lawlessness, the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police have been scrupulously inactive, and the aggrieved Hindus have in consequence wisely refrained from retaliation and even self-defence.

BENGALUR,  
6th March 1907.

223. A correspondent signing himself "Eye-witness" writes to the *Bengalee* detailing the case in which Babu Preo Nath Mitra, Superintendent of the Lady Jane Dundas Hostel, was put up for trial for assaulting a police constable and rescuing from custody a *durwan* in his employ. The constable's complaint, though false, was enquired into that very night, but when Preo Babu went to the thana to lay a charge, no one took down his complaint. At the police enquiry the Revd. Mr. Wann protested against the prosecution and stated the actual facts to the Commissioner, but notwithstanding this, Mr. Halliday suggested that Preo Babu should apologise to the police. In Court the constable changed his statement, and realizing its falseness, the Magistrate acquitted the Babu. Mr. Halliday's conduct amounts to conniving at oppression and gross and deliberate perjury on the part of his subordinates, conduct that was never anticipated from the grandson of an illustrious Lieutenant-Governor.

BENGALUR,  
7th March 1907.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

224. *New India* writes that the *Punjabee* sedition case appears to have made the majority of Indians apprehensive lest the liberty of the Press should suffer, but this paper calms their fears by saying that the present alien 'despotism' are fully alive to their own interests, and would not stop up the only safety valve in the administration. If the people have been granted a certain amount of liberty of speech, they owe the concession not to any benignity on the part of the Government, but to circumstances over which the Government has no control.

NEW INDIA,  
2nd March 1907.

225. The *Bengalee* draws attention to the allegations made by Pandit Gobind Rath, of Patpur, in Killah Banki, Cuttack, against Mr. Garrett, the District Magistrate. The Pandit has made himself disliked by successfully exposing official corruption, and his latest achievement has been a petition to the Lieutenant-Governor containing serious charges against a local Sub-Deputy Collector who is believed to be a special pet of Mr. Garrett's. In enquiring into the matter the District Magistrate took down the Pandit's statement on oath and seized certain papers in spite of all protests. The enquiry has resulted in the Pandit being prosecuted under sections 187 and 211 of the Penal Code and ordered to find a surety for Rs. 300 for personal attendance.

BENGALUR,  
2nd March 1907.

To make things as disagreeable as possible for the accused, the immediate offer of a leading mukhtear to stand surety was refused, and although the offer was made to deposit the money, the Pandit was handcuffed with a common felon and marched off to prison. The Magistrate did all he could to delay the issue of the order for release, and succeeded in keeping the Pandit in *hajat* from 5 P.M. on Wednesday to 1 P.M. on Friday.

226. Referring to the case in which Babu Rash Behari Lal Mandal, a zamindar of Bhagalpur, moved the High Court to transfer to some other district the cases pending against him before the Subdivisional Officer of Madhipura, the *Bengalee* is surprised to find Mr. Justice Rampini satisfied that no letters had passed

BENGALUR,  
3rd March 1907.



between the Magistrate and the Subdivisional Officer, when the former instead of denying their existence demanded the name of the petitioner's informant and subsequently refused to give copies of the letters. The Magistrate's language plainly indicates that the letters were in existence, but that copies could not be given as they came under the category of official or non-official correspondence.

INDIAN EMPIRE,  
5th March 1907.

227. The *Indian Empire* regards as a miscarriage of justice the result of the case of assault brought by a

The case against Mr. Bradley.

Madras gentleman against Mr. Bradley, Chief Secretary to the Madras Government. In spite of Mr. Bradley's own admission as to his feelings and behaviour, the Magistrate found that the accused "absolutely denied the statement made by the complainant," and disbelieving the latter and his witness, dismissed the case.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
5th March 1907.

228. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* characterises as 'utterly scandalous' the prosecution in the Sultanganj (Bhagalpur)

The Sultanganj Bench theft case.

Bench theft case. The District Magistrate (Mr. Lyall) himself figured as the first informant in the case, and so made the matter a personal one. Then an 'obliging subordinate' was selected to try the case. The fact that his 'earthly providence' was the complainant led him of course to convict, but he admitted, in the course of his judgment, that he was not sure if any offence had been committed! Further, respectable persons were needlessly enrolled as special constables. On appeal the Sessions Judge quashed the conviction and held that there was no case against the accused. These are the facts and it is a pity that the Bengal Government have taken no notice of them. Why should Sir Andrew Fraser treat Mr. Carey in one way and Mr. Lyall in another? The latter has abused his authority by causing three innocent men immense trouble, expense, and anxiety and by opposing the *swadeshi* movement. Questions should be asked in Council and to avert further scandals, the Government should transfer Mr. Lyall from Bhagalpur, where he is in conflict with the leading men.

(d)—Education.

BENGALEE,  
5th March 1907.

229. As there is widespread apprehension that the new regulations will

The Convocation of the University.

result in the extinction of many educational institutions, the *Bengalee* is pleased to find that the Vice-Chancellor in his Convocation speech gave the assurance that the standard, though high, was not impracticable, and that there would be no interference with the internal government of colleges. The aim of the regulations, as explained by the Vice-Chancellor, is approved, but it is left to be seen whether it will be actually attained. It is a pity, however, that English History has been completely excluded from the curriculum. This may possibly have some political significance which Sir Herbert Risley can probably explain.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
7th March 1907.

230. The *Indian Mirror* eulogizes Mr. Justice Asutosh Mukerji's Convocation speech, and considers that he has done his

The Vice-Chancellor's address.

best to disarm opposition to the various changes effected by the new Universities Act and has fairly convinced the public that it is likely to produce many good results. The new regulations will greatly tend to raise the efficiency of colleges and schools, and secure a better system of education than has been hitherto the case. India needs men of character, and if the new Act succeeds in supplying this want, it will have amply justified itself.

BENGALEE,  
6th March 1907.

231. The *Bengalee* writes that Mr. Emerson as Chairman of the District

Mr. Emerson and the Braja Mohan Institution.

Board, Barisal, has recommended the raising of the Zilla School to the F. A. Standard on the ground that the only other institution which teaches up to the graduate standard is a private one, the Braja Mohan College, which must necessarily be run as a commercial concern. The inaccuracy of the latter statement is apparent to all who know the history of the institution, but Mr. Emerson's object is perfectly intelligible. It is to ruin the Braja Mohan Institution, whose proprietor has shown himself too independent and conscientious to suit the officials.



232. The paucity of graduates presented with diplomas at the last Convocation and the striking decrease in the number of Matriculation candidates are regarded by the *Bengalee* as proofs of the growing unpopularity of the University of Calcutta. The large percentage of failures last year should under normal conditions have resulted in a considerable increase in the number of candidates this year, but the large decrease may possibly be due to extra careful selection of candidates by the school authorities.

BENGALIAN,  
7th March 1907.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

233. The *Indian Mirror* indulges in the old complaint that after eight years' trial the reformed Calcutta Municipality has proved to be no improvement whatever upon the old Corporation. Sir Andrew Fraser has done nothing to improve matters, and his successor will find the Corporation in a worse plight than it is at present. The Government Resolution on the last annual report is very disappointing. It does not show what real progress has been made, although there has been an increase in the cost of administration, and projects involving heavy outlays have been undertaken. The expenditure has gone beyond actual necessities, while no proportionate advantages have been gained by the public. Instead of overlooking or glossing over defects, the Government should have taken up the municipal question fairly and boldly, and acknowledged the errors of the "reformed Corporation."

INDIAN MIRROR,  
2nd March 1907.

234. Commenting upon the Government Resolution on the working of the Calcutta Corporation for 1905-06, the *Hindoo Patriot* refers to various abuses which are yet existing, and dwells on the necessity for having a Commission of officials and non-officials to report on the merits and demerits of the Corporation and devise a better method of working. It is true the executive have introduced many improvements, but much remains still to be done.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
6th March 1907.

(h)—General.

235. The *Bengalee* condemns as an improper application of public funds for a purely personal purpose, the recommendation of the Eastern Bengal Government to lend 14 lakhs to Nawab Salimulla. The arrangement seems to be a return for the political and partisan services rendered by the Nawab.

BENGALIAN,  
3rd March 1907.

If such loans are considered permissible, it should also be remembered that the Maharani of Ajudhya needs 65 lakhs to clear the estate of the late Maharaja, and her claims on the Government are infinitely stronger than the Nawab's.

236. Commenting further on the intention of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam to grant the Nawab of Dacca a loan of 14 lakhs for the liquidation of his debts, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* asks—What if the Nawab's debts are more than 14 lakhs? Will the Government again come forward? Then, what if the Nawab contracts further loans, knowing full well that the Government will again help him out of his difficulties?

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
4th March 1907.

237. Commenting on the arguments put forward in explanation of the further delay in tackling the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions, the *Bengalee* doubts the honesty of Government in this matter. The opinions already collected are quite up-to-date, and even if the views of the members of the Viceroy's Executive Council were now recorded, it should not take them long to come to a decision. The public are sick of the Government's prodigious procrastination, and action instead of promises and excuses is now wanted.

BENGALIAN,  
5th March 1907.



INDIAN EMPIRE,  
5th March 1907.

238. The *Indian Empire* strongly condemns the system of "begar," or forced labour, which has been allowed to flourish in India even after 200 years of British rule. A recent instance of the hardship and injustice of this system is reported from Chail, in the Allahabad district, where a Tahsildar directed his peon to pounce upon an agriculturist who was on his way to his field, and on his objecting to do "begar" work, the Tahsildar drew up proceedings against the man and fined him five rupees, or in default a week's hard labour. Being unable to pay the fine, the man was imprisoned.

The system of "begar."

INDIAN EMPIRE,  
6th March 1907.

The Telegraph Committee.

239. The *Bengalee* publishes an appeal to the Telegraph Committee by the Combined office signallers who were not given the opportunity, like the departmental signallers, to represent their grievances. In 1904 the standard for examination for this class of signallers was raised from 12 to 16 words per minute, but their prospects were not proportionately improved. The combined system entails great hardships, and the signallers pray that their pay and prospects may be made the same as those of their departmental brethren.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
6th March 1907.

An infamous trade.

240. The Honorary Secretary, Executive Committee, Indian Defence League, appeals to the public, in the columns of the *Indian Mirror*, to help in stamping out the awful traffic in girls for immoral purposes, which has been allowed to flourish so long in Calcutta. Helpless female children are sold to keepers of brothels, who bring them up in most demoralising surroundings, and when scarcely 10 or 11 years old consign them to a life of everlasting shame.

It is inconceivable that British law does not provide for the stamping out of this monstrous practice, and individual help is now solicited to secure the much-needed legislation.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BANDE MATARAM,  
27th March 1907.

241. It is admitted, writes *Bande Mataram*, that India above all other countries, urgently needs the aid of scientific sanitation, but nevertheless this important question occupies a secondary place. The result is that the public health of India is causing grave concern owing to the alarming extent to which it has deteriorated. Malaria is the scourge of India, but experiments have shown that it can be successfully combated by the adoption of proper sanitary measures, but it is precisely these measures that are not adopted. The people seem to be uncared for, although they are heavily taxed and in addition have to pay special cesses for which they receive no return, despite specific assurances to the contrary. For instance, when the road cess was introduced the Secretary of State for India declared that "the benefits derived from the rates should be brought home to the doors of the cess-payers and that these benefits should be palpable, direct, and immediate." Experience, however, has shown how notorious has been the misapplication, if not misappropriation, of the road cess. The question of public health must be taken up seriously if avert race extinction is to be averted.

Public health in India.

MUSULMAN,  
1st March 1907.

Self-reliance.

242. The *Mussalman* attributes the squalid poverty prevailing among its co-religionists to a growing want of the spirit of self-reliance. While accepting assistance from the Government, as a matter of right, the Muhammadans should rely on their own resources and imitate the Hindus in organizing institutions which will open up new and fresh roads to prosperity.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
2nd March 1907.

A plea for sympathy.

243. The *Hindoo Patriot* welcomes the sympathetic attitude displayed by many of the European merchants and Government officials towards Indians. If all Englishmen developed this trait they would undoubtedly help to raise India to the level of other civilised countries and bind India closer to the Empire.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
4th March 1907.

Government interference.

244. The *Hindoo Patriot* takes exception to the attitude of the Khalsa Young Men's Association of Quetta in regard to the management of the funds of the Amritsar Golden Temple. It is eminently desirable that something should be done to stop the misuse of the temple funds, but before seeking the help of Government every endeavour should be made to induce the Sikh gurus to manage the



funds in a better way. Government interference in domestic and religious matters is strongly deprecated, in spite of its having hitherto generally yielded good results.

245. A correspondent writing to the *Beharee* deplors the fact that *swadeshi* and boycott have got mixed up with the anti-partition agitation. They are widely different, as one is based on love and the other on hatred. To solve the bread-problem all true Indians should certainly make it their duty to encourage the produce and consumption of indigenous goods, but in striving to elevate the industrial condition of India, no invidious distinctions should be made between Japanese and British goods, for one is just as foreign to India as the other.

BHARAT,  
5th March 1907.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.  
OF POLICE, L. P.,  
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,  
The 9th March 1907.

F. C. DALY,  
*Perst. Asst. to the Insp. Genl. of Police, L. P.*



